



V.J. ST. PIERRE, JR.
PARISH PRESIDENT

DUANE P. FORET
DIRECTOR

ST. CHARLES PARISH

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION

171 KELLER STREET • HAHNVILLE, LOUISIANA 70057

(985) 783-5090 • Fax: (985) 783-5095

Website: www.stcharlesparish-la.gov

TO: V.J. St. Pierre, Jr.

FROM: Duane P. Foret, Parks and Recreation Director

SUBJECT: **2011 ANNUAL REPORT**

The St. Charles Parish Parks and Recreation Department completed another dynamic and fruitful year in 2011 while creating community through people, parks and programs. The purpose of this report is to summarize the activities and accomplishments of the Parks and Recreation Department in St. Charles Parish. This summary is intended to inform officials and the public, as well as serve as a reference for staff, by providing a historical record of Fiscal year 2011. The Parks and Recreation Department oversees 157 acres of land and operates 50 parks that include 73 baseball fields that must be maintained along with restrooms and concession stands at most of the sites. We cut, chalk and maintain approximately 313 acres of land at athletic sites in the parish. If you factor in inclement weather it becomes a highly intensive task just to cut grass. A wide array of sports, recreation activities, lessons and special events are available for citizens of all ages.

This department works along with nine booster clubs to encourage participation in our sports. We have an OTS (Organized Team Sports Member per booster club) Meeting every 2-3 months as needed to keep everyone up to par on our sports that are offered seasonally. We maintain an OTS Manual that is used as a guide for most issues that need to be clarified. The OTS Manual has been in place for the past 25+ years and updated on as needed basis. We ask each booster club to submit a wish list each year and attempt to make that wish a reality if possible. The larger booster clubs such as Mimosa and Destrehan have assisted financially on several occasions.

Recreation Services provides a broad spectrum of leisure services to meet the needs of all segments of the community. This includes group and individual programming to promote a high quality of life through positive, social, cultural, psychological, emotional, and physiological development. We work alongside with the School Board and assist them in grass cutting and

maintenance work in turn so that we are enabled to use their gyms, fields and facilities. Gym space continues to be a major obstacle for our program. Hopefully the newly proposed community center will add tremendous value to our department. Park improvements were made at various parks, some with grants to playgrounds, field upgrades, concession stands and restrooms on site.

This past year, the Parks and Recreation Department hosted many successful programs and events, renovated older facilities, developed new parks, and continued to make adjustments to accommodate trends and growth to meet the needs of the public. As Director, I am proud of the achievements of the Parks and Recreation Department this past year and am pleased to present the Parks & Recreation Department's Fiscal Year 2011 Annual Report with its many accomplishments and highlights.

2010 ST. CHARLES PARISH PARKS AND RECREATION

Based on Year of 2010 & 2011 Participants

SPORT	2010 # OF TEAMS	2011 # OF TEAMS	2010 # OF PARTICIPANTS	2011 # OF PARTICIPANTS
BASEBALL BOYS YOUTH (2011 INCLUDING T-BALL-24 & ALL-STAR-8)	101	103	1,313	1304
SOFTBALL GIRLS YOUTH (2011 INCLUDING ALL-STAR-4) 2011 Girls T-Ball	50	47	650	582
FALL Baseball	12	19	130	206
SOFTBALL ADULT INDUSTRIAL	7	8	140	146
SOFTBALL ADULT INDEPENDENT	13	14	210	224
SOFTBALL ADULT WOMEN	9	8	160	141
BASKETBALL BOYS YOUTH (INCLUDING ALL-STAR-8)	104	95	1,040	959
BASKETBALL GIRLS YOUTH (INCLUDING ALL-STAR-3)	19	22	228	238
BASKETBALL ADULT INDUSTRIAL & INDEPENDENT	16	16	240	240
FOOTBALL YOUTH	38	35	836	782
CHEERLEADERS	9	9	225	215
SOCCER AGES 4-19			850	800
TRACK	1	1	65	60
SENIOR OLYMPICS (NUMEROUS EVENTS THROUGHOUT)			est. 1,000	est. 1,000
SPECIAL OLYMPICS (NUMEROUS EVENTS THROUGHOUT)			1,140 (included other parishes involved)	1,152 (included other parishes involved)

SUMMER CAMP (INCLUSIVE)	4 camps	4 camps	445 + 83 camp employees	468 + 81 employees
VOLLEY BALL LEAGUE	25	21	287	218
CHALLENGER T-BALL	2	2	85(includes Buddies)	85(includes Buddies)
SHOOTING STARS BASKETBALL	2	2	85(includes Buddies)	85(includes Buddies)
TENNIS LESSONS/GAMES (NEW 2011)				est. 100

Recreational Activities Offered

- Youth - Football, Basketball, Baseball, All Stars, Fall Baseball, Soccer, Cheerleading, Softball, T-Ball (Boys & Girls), Summer Camp, Volleyball, Track, Tennis, Temporary Summer Jobs, Picnics, etc.
- Adult - Basketball, Women, Industrial and Independent Softball, Radio Control Racetrack, Coaching, Multi-Use Track at East and West Bank Levee, and Walking Track, Temporary Summer Jobs, Picnics, etc.
- Seniors - Bowling, Softball, Basketball, Arts & Crafts, Game Sporting Activities, Mardi Gras Ball, Fishing Rodeo, Horseshoes, Sketching & Oil Painting Classes, Casino Trips, Field Trips, etc.
- Special Athletes - Softball, T-Ball, Volleyball, Track & Field, Basketball, Bowling, Bocce, Challenger Baseball Program, Shooting Stars Basketball and Swimming.

We have 10 Boat Launches throughout St. Charles Parish for all ages.

Youth Baseball – (Babe Ruth League)

2 Separate Leagues – American & National

American League is a more skilled level of play which ends the season with the ability to participate in All Stars. National League is a recreational level of play which enables the players to learn the game at a lower level of play. There were a total of 103 teams of baseball for 2011 this includes the All Star Teams.

All Star Competition - Boys

8 Boys USSSA World Series 3rd Place, 9 Boys USSSA State Champs 1st Place, 10 Boys USSSA State Champs 1st Place, 13 Boys USSSA State Champs, 14 Boys USSSA State 2nd Place

Babe Ruth Softball League – Babe Ruth League

One league is held for girls through the Recreation Department which includes a tryout and placement on a team. All Stars are drafted by coaches at the end of the season. There were a total of 47 teams of softball for 2011 which includes the All Star Teams.

All Star Competition - Girls

8 Girls Babe Ruth State 3rd Place, 10 Girls Babe Ruth State Champs, 12 Girls Babe Ruth State Champs, 14 Girls Babe Ruth State Champs

Challenger Baseball

2 teams – Special Athletes

85 Participants including Buddies that assisted with the program.

The Challenger Division is a program for mentally and physically challenged youth, helping them to enjoy the full benefits of participation in an athletic environment structured to their abilities. More than the skills of baseball learned through the experience, the value of the Challenger Program is found in the proven therapeutic and socialization benefits of participating in sports, the strengthening of participants' self-esteem, the opportunities to mainstream into other divisions of play, and the disciplines of teamwork, sportsmanship and fair play, which are hallmarks of this program.

Youth Football Program

In 2011, we had a total of 35 teams that participated in this program. This was another great season with 782 participants. Our Bowl Day Championship was a great success along with our Cheerleading Showcase. We had several teams participating in the showcase.

Youth Volleyball

This is the 3rd year for our Volleyball Program and participants enjoy the new sport for girls which also prepare them for high school play. We now have 218 participants with 21 teams participating in this sport.

Fall Baseball

Fall baseball had an increase in participating this year and this season ran smoothly. There were 19 teams with 206 participants. The fall league is for the children who want to continue playing baseball after the regular season ends. This league plays twice a week with little or no practice during this two month season. This is a great learning league that allows the players to prepare themselves for the upcoming baseball season.

Youth Basketball Program

Youth Basketball continues to run smoothly with the exception of gym space. There were 114 teams with 1,164 participants (girls and boys) that include the All Star Team after regular play.

In 2011, we decided to run one league and it worked out fine. Gym space continues to be a big issue when creating schedules for practice and games. We are anticipating great improvements in this program when our community center is built.

All Star Competition - Basketball

8 Yr Girls Biddy Basketball 3rd Place in Regional
10 Yr Girls Biddy Basketball 3rd Place in Regional
12 Yr Girls Biddy Basketball Regional Champs, National Champs

8 Yr Boys Biddy Basketball 3rd Place in Regional
9 Yr Boys No Team
10 Yr Boys Biddy Basketball 4th Place in Regional
11 Yr Boys No Team
12 Yr Boys Biddy Basketball 3rd Place State, 3rd in Regional

Basketball – Shooting Stars

2 teams – Special Athletes
85 Participants including Buddies that assisted with the program.
This program was developed due to the success in our Challenger Baseball Program. Program is for the mentally and physically challenged youth, helping them to enjoy the full benefits of participation in an athletic environment structured to their abilities. A Christmas Celebration was held with Santa at the end of the season in December.

Summer Camp

In 2011, we once again offered before and after care program at Lakewood, Schoeffner, Luling and Cammon. We had 468 campers that attended camp with 81 temporary employees for 2011. Camp Sites – Lakewood, Luling, Schoeffner and Cammon. We continued to offer Camp Shriver Program to challenge athletes with disabilities and inclusion. Camp Flat Fee for entire 6 week session was \$200 that included all field trips, water slide day, freeze pops, pizza day and snacks for before and after care. Recreation Department partnered with Community Services to provide healthy lunch meals at Cammon and Luling Summer Camp locations.

Adult Softball

We had 8 Industrial teams, 14 Independent and 8 Women's League teams that participated in Adult Softball Program.

Adult Basketball

For 2011, we once again had the same number of participants for Adult Basketball (Industrial and Independent). We had 16 teams in this league with 240 participants.

Seniors

Seniors enjoyed visiting Casino Trips that were available on a monthly schedule. Numerous sports offered along with arts & crafts, exercise and events, etc. The competitors represented our parish well in regional and national competition. Senior activities included the Mardi Gras Ball, Bowling League, Bayou-River District Olympic Games, Golf, Fishing Rodeo, Arts and Crafts, Bocce, Fitness Program, Road Trips (dining, casino, shopping, etc.) and several others. Special Olympics participants enjoyed, softball competition, Olympic games, horseshoes, track and field, basketball, t-ball, and working with the Alligator Festival.

Boat Launches

We have 10 boat launches in St. Charles Parish.

2011 Highlights

We held our 2nd Annual Easter Egg Hunt along with a hat and jelly bean competition. We had over 300 participants with beautiful weather with live rabbits on site that enjoyed the faces of all. The Easter Hat Competition was judged by the Red Hat Society and a Jelly Bean Guess Count competition was quite entertaining.

Montz Park Redesign – 2 Ball Fields, 4 Pavilions and Walking Path.

Wetland Watchers Phase II – 2nd Outdoor Classroom – boardwalk to /Bayou with Fishing Pier.

Killona – Improvements to Ball Park added Lighted Fields.

Boutte - Improvements to Ball Park added Lighted Fields.

St. Mark Ama Ball Park – Added new playground equipment.

Ama Grain Park – Resurfaced Basketball Court and added new basketball goals.

JB Green Park – Added new fencing and a backstop.

Recognition of Volunteer Hours – Coaches (Practice, Games & Playoffs) 48,048 hours – Parish Booster Clubs (Meetings, Registration & Concessions) 8,000+ hours. Total Volunteer Hours estimated at 60,000+ hours in 2011.

Partnership with the following Activities

United Way	5k Bridge Run, Teen Violence Seminar, Battle of the Paddle
Rotary Club	Alligator Festival, Christmas Tree Lighting
STC Picnic	Employee Picnic
Cancer Relay	American Cancer Society – Relay for Life

Bayou River Region Senior Games, etc.
Special Olympics
STC School System
RSVP
Wetland Watchers
Council on Aging

Footnotes

The Recreation Department has attempted to improve all facilities and programs each year. In doing so, this department has made great strides in “raising the bar” for all of our citizens and participants.